

Will M. Carleton letters S0219

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

May 05, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical Note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u>	4
<u>Arrangement</u>	5
<u>Administrative Information</u>	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5

Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Carleton, Will, 1845-1912
Creator	Depew, Chauncey M. (Chauncey Mitchell), 1834-1928
Title	Will M. Carleton letters
Date	1883-1896
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S0219

Preferred Citation

Will M. Carleton letters, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Will (William McKendree) Carleton was an American poet largely wrote about life in small-town America, based on his experiences growing up in rural Michigan. Born near Hudson, Michigan on October 21, 1845, Carleton was the fifth child of John Hancock and Celeste (Smith) Carleton. He grew up on the family farm and attended university at Hillsdale College in 1862, before teaching. Carleton returned to Hillsdale in 1865, graduating in 1869. He then worked a few years as a journalist, writing for newspapers such as the *Hillsdale Standard* and the *Detroit Weekly Tribune*.

Carleton began gaining notice in 1871 as a poet after his poem, "Betsey and I Are Out," was published in the *Toledo Blade*, and soon after picked up around the country before appearing in *Harper's Weekly*. A year later, "Over the Hill to the Poor House" was released and even more popular. Harper & Brothers Publishing soon published his first volume of poetry entitled, *Farm Ballads*, in 1873.

Carleton married Anne Goodell in Boston, Massachusetts in 1878. They later moved to Brooklyn, New York in 1882, but Carleton frequently toured the United States as a public lecture and poet of much public acclaim. He died on December 18, 1912.

Sources:

Items in the collection.

Corning, Amos Elwood. *Will Carleton, a Biographical Study*. New York: Lanmere, 1917. Accessed May 5, 2016. <https://archive.org/details/willcarletonbiog00corn>.

Dempsey, Jack, and David Dempsey. "Michigan Authors: Poet Will Carleton Came to Fame Writing Wistfully About Divorce." *Michigan Live*, July 27, 2013. Accessed May 5, 2016. http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/07/michigan_authors_poet_will_car.html.

Finney, Byron A. "Will Carleton, Michigan's Poet." *Michigan Historical Collections* 39 (1914): 2-4.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes ten letters from Will Carleton in Brooklyn, New York to Horatio King in Washington, D.C. and to Reverend Frederick E. Hopkins in Hamstead, Long Island, New York and Bridgeport, Connecticut, and one letter from Chauncey M. DePew to Rev. Hopkins ranging from 1883 to 1897 regarding concerning speaking engagements, traveling, printed circulars, and attending prayer meetings.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Paul Krueger on 1929/10/21.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2013/06 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield. EAD finding aid created 2013/06 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield. EAD finding aid revised 2016/05/04 by Brittany Kropf.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Correspondence

Subject(s)

- American poetry--19th century
- American poetry--20th century
- American poets
- Public speaking